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# HACKENSACK MEADOWLANDS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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Executive Director

July 25, 1996

Mr. Richard Caspe, P.E.  
Director of Emergency & Remedial Response  
U.S.E.P.A.  
290 Broadway  
New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Keegan Landfill  
Kearny, New Jersey  
NJD 981490428

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
96 JUL 27 PM 2:42

Dear Mr. Caspe:

The Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission (HMDC) is the State agency responsible for development, environmental improvement and solid waste management within the Meadowlands District. This also includes closure and post-closure responsibilities for several landfills within the District.

In 1991, our Office proposed reopening the former Keegan Landfill in an attempt to halt the pollution from the site into the surrounding wetlands and the Passaic River. We only recently became aware that the referenced site had been upgraded from the medium priority recommended in the "Final Draft Site Inspection Report" prepared by the NUS Corporation in September, 1989, to high priority for further action.

This was apparently due to a change in the classification system within the USEPA. If possible, we would like a copy of any evaluations performed or memorandum by either the USEPA and/or NUS in determining the background for the high priority versus low priority recommendation.

This priority change apparently triggered the need to prepare a Site Inspection Prioritization (SIP) Report as a follow-up to the original NUS Report. We understand that Weston Engineering was assigned this project in May, 1996 and that no work has been done on the project to date.

Reopening the Keegan Landfill, as we have, proposed will require a massive geotechnical investigation of the site, and the preparation of engineering plans and specifications for the

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construction of a perimeter cutoff wall, leachate collection system, pumping stations, runoff controls, etc.

So far, the HMDC has prepared a Preliminary Environmental and Health Impact Statement (PEHIS) for the site and attended a number of public hearings. We are now poised to issue a Request for Bids to begin the site investigations and work noted above. However, it would not be prudent to proceed with this request, if in fact the site is elevated to the National Priorities List.

We are requesting a copy of the Scope of Work for the SIP to determine the extent of additional site evaluations. We should note that all of our efforts have been coordinated with Mr. John Castner, P.E., P.P. of the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, as well as other NJDEP offices.

It was the NJDEP who approved our PEHIS in December, 1995, and have supported these efforts since we first proposed reopening the site in 1991.

We would like to thank you in advance for your time, and look forward to your response so that our efforts may proceed in a timely manner. If you should have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact either myself or Chris Dour of our Solid Waste Division.

Very truly yours,



Thomas R. Marturano, P.E., P.P.  
Director of Solid Waste